

HISTORICAL DATA RECORD

REPORTING PERIOD

RCS:

AU - DS

FROM

1 July 1962

TO

31 December 1962

FROM: (Name and Geographical Location of Unit Submitting this Report)

20th Tactical Fighter Wing
RAF Station Wethersfield
Nr. Braintree, Essex
England

TO:

USAFE (OIHS)
APO 633, US Forces

DECLASSIFIED

If more space is needed for any item, attach additional sheets indicating applicable item number

1. ASSIGNMENT				
MAJOR AIR COMMAND	NUMBERED AIR FORCE	AIR DIVISION	WING	GROUP
United States	Seventeenth	n/a	n/a	n/a
Air Forces in Europe	Air Force			

2. SUBORDINATE UNITS	
55th Tactical Fighter Squadron	CLASSIFIED BY 20th Tactical Hospital
77th Tactical Fighter Squadron	SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
79th Tactical Fighter Squadron	SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
20th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron	AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR
20th Supply Squadron	DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER
20th Combat Support Group	31, 1970

P.R.C.

3. MISSIONS

A. PRIMARY
To prepare for and conduct atomic and non-atomic tactical air operations as directed. To provide administrative and logistical support services for assigned, attached, and tenant units; to operate and maintain RAF Wethersfield and such other stations and facilities as directed by higher headquarters (17AFR No. 23-11, 21 May 62).

XXXXXXXXXX

CLASSIFICATION. The SECRET classification of this history is required to protect information contained herein bearing upon the mission capability of the wing.

4. PERSONNEL				
STATUS	OFFICERS	AIRMEN	CIVILIANS	TOTAL
ASSIGNED	227	1963	6 DAF 97 UK	2293
AUTHORIZED	236	1996	6 DAF 102 UK	2340
ATTACHED	0	5		5

5. EQUIPMENT

A. AIRCRAFT (Number and Type) (C)		B. WEAPONS SYSTEMS (Number and Type)	
68 - F-100D	2 - U6A	n/a	
11 - F-100F	2 - C47A		
11 - T-33A	(C)		
C. ELECTRONICS		D. OTHER	
n/a		n/a	

DECLASSIFIED

25 JUL 1982

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

DOD DIR 5200.10

44872

K-MG-20-HI
JUL-DEC 1962

2-8290-2

the wing participated (excluding locally generated exercises). (S)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Exercise</u>	<u>Hours Flown/CPX</u>
15 July	Razors Edge (Tac Eval)	68:00
16 July	Max Bombing (Tac Eval)	63:00
19 July	Exercise Kingpin	26:00
14 Aug	Razors Edge (Tac Eval)	80:00
16 Aug	Exercise Kingpin	23:00
29 Aug	Front Center II/Max effort	77:00
13 Sep	Front Center II A	CPX
20-25 Sep	Fallex/High Heels 62	CPX
15-21 Oct	Marne Rock	52:25
13 Dec	Quick Train/Fast Strike	CPX (S)

The flying time breakdown for operational and administrative flying during the period July through December 1962 was as follows: (S)

<u>Month</u>	<u>F-100</u>	<u>T-33</u>	<u>C-47</u>	<u>L-20</u>
July	2036	236	103	82
August	2102	257	134	44
September	1958	351	110	29
October	1628	282	151	31
November	1479	229	116	19
December	1589	260	70	30
TOTAL:	10792	1615	584	235 (S)

During the Cuban crisis, early October through 15 November, the Seventeenth Air Force increased the wing target commitment by 14 targets with two additional on Victor Alert. Squadron pilots were placed on a moderately restrictive standby status and aircraft were held on the ground in an operational status, thereby sharply reducing the flying training program temporarily. Subsequent intensified flying assured the successful completion of all flying requirements by the tactical squadrons by early December. (S)

During its October inspection the Seventeenth Air Force inspectors noted that wing aircraft in the Automatic Program were being configured to three or four tanks at the end of flying each day. This was done to place the aircraft in a better posture to meet reaction time. However, it necessitated considerable downloading because this configuration, in the majority of cases, was not compatible with that required or desired for training purposes. The team recommended that a 2 x 450 tank configuration, as opposed to four tank configuration, be adopted by the wing, thus eliminating practically all configuration changes for both reaction times and training purposes. Accordingly, wing aircraft were modified to facilitate the 2 x 450 gallon external tank configuration. The configuration was employed on a limited number of sorties flown during December to check the compatibility of flight characteristics with wing training mission requirements and to educate air and ground crews. (S)

Materiel. Despite serious deficiencies the Aircraft Maintenance Division provided the capability to support over 10,000 F-100 tactical flying hours and approximately 2,500 support aircraft flying hours during the six-month period. The average O/R rate for F-100 aircraft during the period was 75 percent. Approximately 29 direct manhours per one F-100 flying hour and 14.2 direct manhours per one T-33 aircraft flying hour were expended by personnel of the aircraft maintenance

(SECRET) There was a no notice tactical evaluation of the 20th conducted 15-17 July 1962. The initiation message was received by the 20th shortly after noon on Sunday and the Wing did experience more than normal difficulty in recalling personnel. The Commander and his key staff were readily available and reacted rapidly. Though the 20th TFW appeared to be completing their automatic program within specified time limits, two (2) problem targets near the end of the program caused the scheduling of 7 aircraft to cover these targets. The 20 TFW did not demonstrate their ability to meet the satisfactory reactions required by 17 AF NSP and were therefore rated unsatisfactory. There were many contributing factors involved in this rating, however, the principle reason was the inability to meet launch requirements. DCO discrepancies were of a minor nature with the exception of VADO launch procedures in the 79 TFS. Action was immediately taken to correct this and all other discrepancies.

(SECRET) There was a repeat no-notice tactical evaluation of the Wing on 14 Aug 62 due to the unsatisfactory rating received in the 15 - 17 July Tac Eval. Recall problems were not experienced although a general alert was announced at 0505Z. In spite of additional discrepancies noted the overall improvement in the 20TFW in the four (4) weeks between tactical evaluations was marked. This was evidenced by the Wing bettering its own LSP by over an hour. Accordingly the Wing was awarded a satisfactory rating.

(UNCLASSIFIED) July and August were primarily spent in preparing for Exercise "Max Effort" (29 Aug) a new concept in exercise gaming. Most exercises ignore the possibility or effects of an enemy attack on this base. Max Effort was based on the assumption that a "Near Miss" nuclear attack had destroyed approximately 50% of our launch capability. The blast created three (3) zones of damage - heavy, medium, and light. Instructions in the plan were used to determine casualties and damage according to the location in a particular zone. A Staff of approximately 50 umpires selected from base organizations worked under the direction of the Project Officers to develop damage problems for each facility, and piece of equipment. These were distributed after the blast. Casualty Description Cards and Armbands were used to tag dead and wounded. The dead were segregated from the living to demonstrate the effect such a tremendous loss of personnel would have on our launch capability. "Living" personnel were fed the noon and supper meals at a mess tent rather than in the mess hall. Umpires were kept busy observing and recording the actions of various organizations in coping with the large losses of personnel and equipment while trying to recover from the attack and launch aircraft. The Line 1000 Reporting System was also used for the first time. This system combined most APEX and all SS form reports into one that could be transmitted "in the clear" thus speeding up reports. Teletype traffic was reduced almost 50%. The report also included a Commanders estimate of his launch capability based on consolidated staff estimates of the elements non-essential to launch - materiel medical, munitions, personnel communications, radiological, security, facilities and services. Any limiting factor affecting launch and assistance required was also included. After the initial difficulties of using a new system the Line 1000 reporting method met with very favorable acceptance by all concerned.

(UNCLASSIFIED) The month of September saw the Air Force Tactical Aircraft Gunnery Meet, "William Tell '62". The 20TFW was represented by Major Frederick S. Roselius with Captain James W. Harrison, Jr. as alternate competitor. Under the new competition concept each Wing is represented by one competitor only, with a back-up in case of emergencies. Major Roselius and Capt. Harrison, along with other USAFE F-100 Competitors flew their own aircraft to and from the meet, a feat not attempted by PACAF and the USAFE F-105 Wings. Major Roselius attained 10th out of the 14 competing Wings.

NARRATIVE (Continued)

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the 55th Squadron continued to maintain a presence at RAF Wattisham. They have attended old and in return have invited members of the

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(UNCLASSIFIED) During this six (6) months the 55th Squadron continued to maintain a close relationship with the fighter squadrons at RAF Wattisham. They have attended several of our parties here at Wethersfield and in return have invited members of the 55th to their squadron functions.

(SECRET) During July 62, 17 AF increased the 20TFW target commitment by three targets. No change in VA targets. On 15 August 62, 17 AF increased our target commitment by nine (9) targets and increased the VA Force by two (2) aircraft. These targets were assumed as a result of the inability of 17 AF assigned F-105 units to maintain an operational ready state due to aircraft mechanical problems. On 24 Sep 62 the F-105's became operationally ready again and re-assumed their targets, thereby reducing our commitment by 10 targets and deleting the two additional VA targets. However, they incorporated Armed Strike Reconnaissance and Contingencies into the Regional Priority Program. This change levied a requirement for Bomb Commanders to memorize in some instances 5 separate targets (Two squadron targets, primary and alternate, plus a VA target with the possibility of contingency 2 targets.)

(SECRET) During the Cuban crisis, early October through 15 Nov., 17 AF increased the 20th target commitment by 14 targets with two additional on VA. Squadron pilots were placed on a moderately restrictive standby status and aircraft were held on the ground in an operational status thereby sharply reducing the flying training program temporarily. Subsequent intensified flying assured the successful completion of all flying requirements by the Tactical Squadrons by early December.

(UNCLASSIFIED) Management training: During this period three classes were conducted graduating a total of thirty-seven students. Military Suggestion Program: A total of 384 Military Suggestions were received to which 69 were adopted, realizing a first years savings of \$44,364.41. The 20th Tactical Fighter Wing maintained fourth position in the USAFE Military Suggestion Contest. Unit Manning Document Actions: Unit Manning Document actions resulted in the realignment of spaces throughout the Wing. This was due to the standardization of F-100 Tactical Fighter Wings to conform to the Dual Deputy Concept of organization. In addition the following deletions were made to our UMD.

OFFICERS

-4

AIRMEN

-13

LWR CIVILIANS

-11

(SECRET) The recent modification of all Wing aircraft to facilitate the 2 x 450 Gal. external tank configuration has resulted in a study of the undue workload imposed by the incompatibility of aircraft configurations required for training purposes as opposed to wartime requirements. Mission planning criteria, coordination with higher Headquarters and the possibility of the USAFE wide procurement of 335 gal. tanks will be considered and a decision is expected in Jan 63. In the meantime, we are using the 2 x 450 tank configuration on a limited number of sorties during December to check flight characteristics for our various training missions and to educate air and ground crews.

Continue Narrative on Page 4

DATE 8 February 1963	NAME, GRADE AND SERIAL NUMBER OF COMMANDER MICHAEL C HORGAN, Colonel, USAF Deputy Commander for Operations	SIGNATURE OF COMMANDER <i>Michael C. Horgan</i>
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(Security Classification)